

*This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:*

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended):** ~~An image processing~~ A direct printing method, performed by an ~~image supply device storing image data and an image output device performing image processing with respect to the image data which are connected via a communication path through which the image data is communicated,~~ the method comprising steps of:

connecting directly a digital camera storing an image data file and a printer operable to perform a print operation via a USB cable;

confirming whether an extended function for in a predetermined function print control protocol is valid executable in both of the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera and the ~~image output device~~ printer;

generating a control information item including a script for image processing which is described by a markup language, in a case where it is confirmed the extended function is ~~valid~~ executable; and

communicating, between the image supply device digital camera and the image output device printer via the USB cable, the control information item;

transmitting, from the digital camera to the printer via the USB cable, an image data file described in the script; and

performing, at the printer, a print operation of an image based on the received image data file,

wherein an extension tag corresponding to the extended function is inserted into the script while remaining an existing tag corresponding to in the predetermined function print control protocol, and

wherein the extended function includes at least one of a PIM function and an Exif printing function.

**Claims 2-9 (Canceled).**

**Claim 10 (Currently Amended):** The image processing method as set forth in claim 8 1, wherein the ~~image output device~~ printer performs ~~the information~~ image processing specified by the extension tag ~~among the information processing corresponding to the predetermined function, in a case where it is confirmed the extended function is valid~~ with respect to image data in the received image data file, and  
wherein the printer performs the print operation based on the image data which has been subjected to the image processing.

**Claim 11 (Currently Amended):** The image processing method as set forth in claim ~~4~~ 10, wherein the ~~extension tag specifies image processing in which~~ is that another image is combined with an original image of the image data.

**Claim 12 (Currently Amended):** The image processing method as set forth in claim 11, wherein the ~~extension tag specifies~~ another image data for is a frame image.

**Claims 13-16 (Canceled).**

**Claim 17 (Currently Amended):** ~~An image processing~~ A direct printing system,  
comprising:

~~an image supply device~~ a digital camera, operable to store an image data file; and  
~~an image output device~~ a printer, connected to the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera  
via a ~~communication path through~~ USB cable ~~which the image data is communicated, and~~  
~~operable to perform image processing with respect to the image data,~~

wherein each of the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera and the ~~image output device~~ printer comprises:

a communication controller, operable to communicate, between the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera and the ~~image output device~~ printer via the USB cable, a control information item ~~for the image processing~~ including a script described by a markup language; and

a script generator, operable to confirm whether an extended function ~~for~~ in a predetermined function is ~~valid~~ executable in both of the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera and the ~~image output device~~ printer, and operable to generate the script in which an extension tag corresponding to the extended function is inserted while remaining an existing tag ~~corresponding to~~ in the predetermined ~~function~~ print control protocol, in a case where it is confirmed the extended function is ~~valid~~ executable,

wherein the digital camera is operable to transmit, to the printer via the USB cable, an image data file described in the script,

wherein the printer is operable to perform a print operation of an image based on the received image data file, and

wherein the extended function includes at least one of a PIM function an Exif printing function.

**Claim 18 Currently Amended):** ~~An image output device~~ A printer, adapted to be directly connected to an image supply device ~~a digital camera storing an image data file via a communication path through which the image data is communicated~~ USB cable, the image output device printer comprising:

a communication controller, operable to

communicate a control information item ~~for image processing to be performed with respect to the image data, the control information item~~ including a script described by a markup language; and

~~a script generator, operable to confirm whether an extended function for in a predetermined function print control protocol is valid executable in both of the image supply device digital camera and the image output device printer, and operable to generate the script in which an extension tag corresponding to the extended function is inserted while remaining an existing tag corresponding to the predetermined function, in a case where it is confirmed the extended function is valid;~~

receive, from the digital camera via the USB cable, an image data file described in the script; and

perform a print operation of an image based on the received image data file and the extended function,

wherein the extended function includes at least one of a PIM function an Exif printing function.

**Claim 19 (Currently Amended):** ~~An image supply device~~ A digital camera, adapted to be directly connected to an image output device performing image processing a printer operable to perform a print operation, via a ~~communication path~~ USB cable, the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera comprising:

a storage, ~~which stores~~ storing an image data file ~~to be subjected to the image processing;~~

a communication controller, operable to communicate a control information item ~~for the image processing~~ including a script described by a markup language; and

a script generator, operable to confirm whether an extended function ~~for~~ in a predetermined ~~function~~ print control protocol is ~~valid~~ executable in both of the ~~image supply device~~ digital camera and the ~~image output device~~ printer, and operable to generate the script in which an extension tag corresponding to the extended function is inserted while remaining an existing tag ~~corresponding to~~ in the predetermined ~~function~~ print control protocol, in a case where it is confirmed the extended function is ~~valid~~ executable.

wherein the extended function includes at least one of a PIM function and an Exif printing function.

**Claim 20 (Currently Amended):** A computer program product comprising a computer-readable storage medium having stored thereon a computer program which causes a computer to ~~serve as the communication controller and the script generator in the image output device~~ execute the direct printing method as set forth in claim 1 1.

**Claims 21-26 (Canceled).**

**Claim 27 (New):** The direct printing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the extended function includes a marginless printing function.